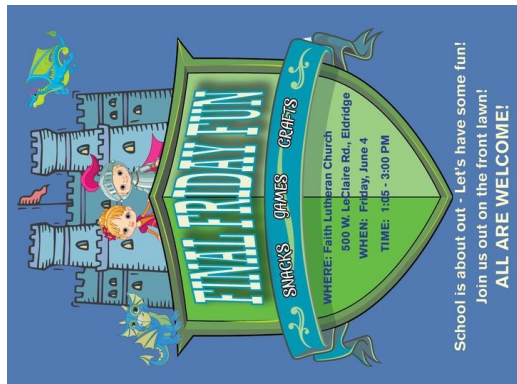


Please Join Us For Weekly Worship: Saturday @ 5:00 pm In Person & Live Stream Online, and Sunday at 9am In Person. Worship Updates will be posted on [www. faithlutheraneldridge.com](http://www.faithlutheraneldridge.com) and on our Facebook page.

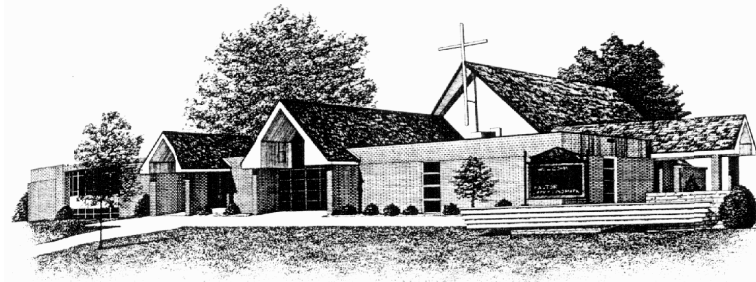
**Faith Lutheran Church**  
500 W. LeClaire Road  
Eldridge, IA 52748

Non-Profit Organization  
PERMIT NO. 1  
Eldridge, IA 52748

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



## Faith Lutheran Church



# AMBASSADOR

June 2021

**Rev. Dr. Carrie Lewis La Plante**  
**Rev. Heather Geest**

500 W. LeClaire Road  
Eldridge, IA 52748  
(563) 285-4501

[www.faithlutheraneldridge.com](http://www.faithlutheraneldridge.com)  
[faitheldridge@netins.net](mailto:faitheldridge@netins.net)



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**Grace-Gifted, Faith-Lifted**  
**Called to Share, Seek, and**  
**Serve Christ**



Dear Friends in Christ,  
This weekend, we celebrate Holy Trinity Sunday as we enter into the season after Pentecost. We give thanks for the vastness of who God

is and how God comes to us in various ways as Father, Son and Holy Spirit. We also begin to look ahead to this season after Pentecost when we hear God's call to us through Jesus to live the life and love of God in the world as followers of Jesus.

We also are heading into the summer, and I do not know about you, but I am looking forward to all that summer brings. Time outside with family and friends, more consistent sunshine and warmer weather (hopefully), cookouts, swimming in outdoor pools, and even some time of travel are the things that I am most looking forward to this summer.

One exciting place where I can see our call to live God's light and love in the world in the midst of the fun events of the summer comes in this summer's celebration of the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Eldridge. There will be a large celebration throughout town on the weekend of July 9 and 10. There will be a lot of the things that we normally see during Eldridge Days, like the parade and the awesome Moonlight Chase, but there will be some new and big events to celebrate this important anniversary, like a concert and fireworks in Sheridan Meadows and a prayer service to pray God's blessings upon Eldridge and upon those who serve this town.

As a congregation that holds a prominent place in this town and that sees as part of its mission to bring the love of Jesus into the activities of this town, we hope and pray that you will want to join us in this celebration. There are three specific ways that I would like to invite you to be a part of the celebration.

First, I would like to invite you to join us for the prayer service on Friday evening at 7:30 pm in Sheridan Meadows. This service will be an ecumenical service led by the community pastors, and we will offer prayers of thanksgiving for all that the town and people of Eldridge have been, pray God's blessings on all that still lies ahead, and offer specific prayers of gratitude, safety, thanksgiving and protection over those who serve this community. It will be a



Birthday wishes are extended to the following members who are celebrating birthday number 70 or above.

Gloria Hamann	June 1	Bob Bainter	June 15
Jan Hartwig	June 2	Darrell Weltzin	June 15
Sue Oetzmann	June 2	John McCammant	June 18
Myron Scheibe	June 2	Norm Harvey	June 22
Don Rathjen	June 4	Dennis Schmidt	June 28
Earl Kuhl	June 13	Ron Meyer	June 30
Donna Darnall	June 13		



Faye & Norm Harvey	June 4, 1955
Linda & Duane Miller	June 8, 1968
Mary Ann & Dan Anderson	June 22, 1968



We welcome to our Faith family, through the waters of Holy Baptism, Tegan Kathryn Kieger, who was baptized on May 8, 2021. Tegan's sponsors are her grandparents, Tom and Joni Dittmer and Tony and Danny Kieger, and her great-grandmother, Katie Dittmer.



### Food Panty Needs

Food Pantry Needs for the month of June are pasta and side dishes.

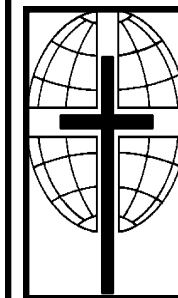
AFTERNOON

**BIBLE  
STUDY**



### Tuesday Afternoon Bible Study

Join us on each Tuesday afternoon for a Bible study that looks at the lectionary texts for the week. **Tuesday afternoons at 1 pm.** Masks will be required when indoors and spacing will be implemented. We look forward to studying the scriptures together again.



### MISSIONARY SPONSORSHIP

**Thank you to Myron and Carolyn Scheibe for sponsoring the Bencke family, John Chima and Denisse Grefa in June.** The cost for sponsorship is \$40/month each for our Compassion Children John and Denisse and \$45/month for the Bencke family. You can sign up online on Faith's web page, or by calling the church office at 285-4501.

*Thank you for your support!*

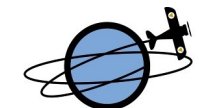
## Adult Mission Trip to Lutheran Lakeside



Lutheran Lakeside Camp

All adults attending the Lutheran Lakeside Mission Trip, July 18-23, must complete a Volunteer application. The applications are located outside the east (Main) entrance to the church in the clear plastic bin. They can be returned to the Plastic bin or the Church office. If you choose to leave it in the clear plastic bin, please let Tom Bauer or the church office know for retrieval. **These forms need to be sent to Lutheran Lakeside prior to our arrival.**

**Please don't delay!** Any questions or concerns, please contact: Tom Bauer at [tebauer33@gmail.com](mailto:tebauer33@gmail.com) or 563-505-5776 Tray Tables UP!!!!



MISSION TRIP



## With Appreciation...

Thank you for the ways you have helped us keep one another safe during the pandemic by following our precautions. ~ *Council*

Thank you to our May Ambassador Folding Crew: Sue Braack, Donna Benskin, Carol Marten, Mary Moore and Carol Strobbe. ~ *Beth Ann*

## Help Needed

The Evangelism and Worship and Music Team have a joint need for audio and video help. If you are gifted in these areas, please contact Matt Peck at 285-8447



Worship Technicians Needed

## NEW: Mary Martha Ministry



The church council has approved a new ministry to help our friends at home. The goal of our new Mary Martha Ministry is to share our love for one another by visiting those in need to do light housekeeping and by sharing in fellowship and the

gospel. If you are in need of a little light housekeeping help and fellowship, or if this type of ministry speaks to your heart as something you would enjoy helping with, contact Mary Moore (285-7223) or Carol Marten (285-4424). Once we know what needs and interest exist, this ministry can begin.

great way to join with our neighbors and our siblings in Christ from throughout the community to shine Christ's love into the world.

Second, we have been invited to enter a float into the parade that will be held on Saturday morning, July 10, at 10:30 am. The floats will be judged in six categories. Our category would be Best Faith Based Theme. The winner in each category will receive a trophy and a \$100 cash prize, and the overall winner from the top 6 will receive a \$250 cash prize. We have a trailer and a truck that have been offered for our use. We have a few people with experience building floats who have offered to help put it together. We are in need of some awesome ideas for float design and some hard-working hands that would be willing to help build the float. If this is of interest to you, please contact me (563-285-4501 or [pastorcarrie@csteldridge.com](mailto:pastorcarrie@csteldridge.com)) by June 10, and we will begin to get a team together.

Third, there will be the Eldridge Summerfest Sesquicentennial Apple Pie Bake-Off on Saturday, July 10. Drop-off will be at the Fire Station between 9:00 and 10:00 am, judging will be at 3:00 pm, and the pies will be auctioned at 4:00 pm. The hope is that there will be several bakers from each church who will bake a pie for the contest to make it more exciting. There will be three age categories for judging: Youth (ages 17 and under), Adults (ages 18-54) and Seniors (ages 55+). If you would like to participate in this pie-baking contest, please let me know, and I will get you an entry form.

This is only one opportunity for us to be God's presence in the world this summer, and you will read about many more of those opportunities throughout this Ambassador. Each of us also will have a number of opportunities in the days ahead to be God's love and light to those around us. May each of us enter this fun season of summer serving God and serving all of God's people in whatever places we find ourselves.

In Christ's love,

*Pastor Carrie*





## **We Give Thanks!**

Thanks go out to Scott Rochau for accepting a one year term to backfill for a vacancy on the Audit Committee.

We are thankful for the COVID-19 vaccines and for the reduced community spread and pray for a continued return to more normalcy sooner than later. We appreciate everyone for being patient and for supporting our precautions and procedures throughout this challenging journey.

Praise God for the coming of summer and the outdoor life that comes with it!

## **COVID-19 Update**

The council approved an updated COVID-19 policy which eases some of the precautions and procedures. You can find the letter to the congregation and the updated policy on our website, facebook, email, and in this Ambassador.

## **Audit Charter**

The council approved an Audit Charter, which was brought forward from the Finance Committee. This document outlines the role and responsibilities of the Audit Committee and was adapted from an ELCA resource provided to congregations.

## **Audit Committee 2021-2022**

The council appointed Scott Rochau to the Audit Committee, to fill the last year of a three year term that is currently vacant. Since Scott also serves on our Endowment Committee, he will not participate in the audit of the endowment fund books.

## **Council Open/Close**

Since we have returned to a normal in-person worship schedule, the council will resume their opening and closing support duties for worship. These duties include taking care of the building, helping the pastors and the people serving, and addressing any issues that may arise.

## **Building Use**

The council approved the use of the Fellowship Hall by the Eldridge Lions Club two Monday evenings each month.



## **Knights of North Castle: Quest for the King's Armor**

At Knights of North Castle VBS, your students will enjoy an interactive, energizing, Bible-based good time as they go on a quest in search of the King's Armor. They will become Knights and discover how to serve God and God's mission for their lives.

After a high-energy opening assembly time, the Knights make their way to the Bible Story Station. Interactive Bible lessons reveal Castle Callouts to equip your Knights for an active life with God. Your Knights will discover a Banner Verse (Bible memory verse) that will

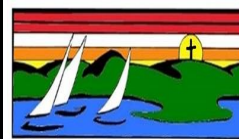
remain with them in their faith long after VBS.

The students will expand on what they've discovered by participating in a variety of activities: making their own art projects at the Craft Station, singing new songs at the Music Station, exploring wonders at the Science Station, and playing games at the Recreation Station. Along the way, the Knights will hear about our mission project and as they respond to a call for action!

Accept the challenge to "armor up" and be strong by remaining with God and sharing God's love in the world.

Serving Ages 4 through 5th grade. June 20-24. 6-8pm

Face coverings are recommended when moving about amongst others and will be provided.



Lutheran Lakeside Camp

## **Summer Camp Registration is Here!!**

Registration for summer camp at Lutheran Lakeside, Spirit Lake, Iowa, is **now open**. We will be going the **week of July 18-23**. There is Junior Camp for those who have completed grades 3-5, Confirmation Camp for those who have completed grades 6-8, and High School Servant Trip for those who have completed grades 8-12. Everyone needs to register on the Lutheran Lakeside website ([www.lutheranlakeside.com](http://www.lutheranlakeside.com)). Faith will pay \$150 of the registration fee for every youth registered through Faith.



This has been a busy month, as we near the end of another school year!

Fifteen 8<sup>th</sup> grade students were confirmed at a ceremony held at the Outdoor Chapel at 10:30 on Sunday, April 25. Although

rain was predicted, the showers held off until the afternoon, producing a beautiful morning for this special service. Thank you, God! As part of the program, each Confirmand read aloud the Bible verse he or she had chosen as their faith statement.

Although Confirmation classes have officially ended until the fall, the 8<sup>th</sup> grade Confirmands have been invited to attend the High School Youth Group activities. Functions that involve gatherings in places other than church and having meals, have been put on hold, due to Covid precautions. The youth are still enjoying activities at Church, and the ability to spend time with one another.

We have been blessed with many nice evenings, which have allowed us to bring our activities outside on the front patio and lawn. Many of the usual attendees have been busy with school activities, but we are still seeing 8-12 youth on a regular basis, ranging in ages from 8<sup>th</sup> Grade to High School Seniors. Besides having some very interesting conversations, we've played Guesstures (a timed charades game) and whiffle ball on the front lawn. High School Youth have chosen to continue meeting as long as the adults will show up.

A gorgeous sunny morning greeted thirteen graduating High School Seniors, as they were honored in a ceremony at the Outdoor Chapel on Sunday, May 23, at 9:00, following with a cupcake reception on the front patio. Congratulations to all graduates, and may Christ guide them throughout their future endeavors!

To date, there are 37 youth from grades 3-12 attending Camp at Lutheran Lakeside, and 10 adults. We are very pleased to see so much interest in going to Camp.

Respectfully submitted,  
Joni King, Youth Chair

### We Welcome Feedback!

As always, we would like to hear your feedback or concerns. Please feel free to contact the council in one of these three ways: 1) in-person discussion, 2) phone discussion, or 3) email to the church at [FaihtEldridge@netins.net](mailto:FaihtEldridge@netins.net). When sending an email to the church, please mention 'attention: council' to help ensure that it is forwarded promptly. A council member will respond back to you as soon as possible.

Respectfully,

Linda Golinghorst  
Faith Lutheran Church Council



### April/May Poll Results

We would like to know if families are ready to send their children to VBS, and if there are adults willing to serve as VBS Guides.

**Are you interested in attending Vacation Bible School this summer?**

Yes, I would like my child(ren) to attend. - 100%

Yes, I would like to serve as an adult VBS Guide - 25%

No, I am not interested in attending VBS this summer. - 0%

**Please share what precautions are needed for you to feel safe at VBS.** There was a wide range of feedback which is appreciated and has been passed onto the Christian Ed team.

*Thank you for your input.*

### Synod Assembly May 21-22

Thank you to Diane Krebs and Kelly Penning for attending the Synod Assembly as voting members from our congregation.

Congratulations to Pastor Carrie Lewis La Plante and Katie Garner on being elected as voting members for Southeastern Iowa Synod at the 2022 Churchwide Assembly. The 2022 Churchwide Assembly will be held August 8-12, 2022, in Columbus, Ohio.

We will learn more about the Synod Assembly in the July Ambassador.



**Southeastern Iowa Synod**  
**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.



Dear Friends in Christ,

As we get closer to returning to what our new normal will be, it is getting more complicated. Yet, the love of our neighbor is still our guide, and we continue to make decisions that unfold the love of our neighbor while considering the most vulnerable.

Throughout scripture, we are given the mandate to love one another and to care for those around us. On the night before he was betrayed, Jesus said to his disciples, "This is my commandment that you love one another as I have loved you" (John 15:12). In his first letter to the Corinthians, Paul advises Christians that "love builds up," and warns to "take care that your liberty does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak" (1 Corinthians 8:1, 9).

As the Ecumenical Protocols for Worship, Fellowship, and Sacramental Practices conveners wrote in their recommendations on May 13, 2021:

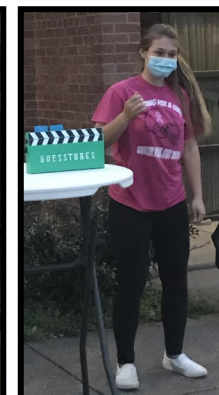
*'When we are among those who may be unvaccinated, we recommend being as the unvaccinated for the sake of the unvaccinated-- for their safety, and to avoid stigmatizing them. ... We are one body in Christ, no more protected than the least protected among us.'*

With these biblical goals in mind, our COVID-19 Sub Committee has done the necessary research to make the best possible recommendation for moving forward in light of our current context. The Congregation Council has thoroughly discussed the pros and cons of the recommendation and voted by majority to approve the following changes to our COVID-19 Policies:

- When outdoors, we recommend wearing a face covering while moving about, such as when checking in for worship as you may be close to people who are vulnerable. When stationary, masks are optional, so during worship, feel free to either leave your mask on or remove it.
- When indoors, we still require a face covering as a way to protect those who are unable to get the vaccine (primarily our children). We are a congregation with deep conviction to support



## Spring 2021 Youth Activities



# Women of the ELCA

Come Join the women of Southeastern Iowa Synodical Women of the ELCA on Saturday June 5 via zoom for a Bible Study and Conversation. Time: 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 A.M. The Bible Study will be from the June Gather Magazine, A speaker from LSI and Book Reviews. For a registration form and more information contact Lynda Miller at 285-8613 or [Lmchurchlady56@gmail.com](mailto:Lmchurchlady56@gmail.com)

## SAVE THE DATE:

All women of Faith Lutheran Church

Are you ready to treat yourself to an inspired weekend with a Bible study, meet our NEW Bishop and see how Women in Action work? Join us **September 10th & 11th** at the HOTEL Kirkwood in Cedar Rapids. More details to follow in the FALL

Remember each church is to send 1 delegate to carry out the business of the SEIA Synodical Women of the ELCA.

If a church has stamps and are not coming to the Gathering in Sept. send them to Roberta Jurgensen, 1025 N. 4th St., Clinton, IA 52732.

families and youth, and we believe this allows us to live into that conviction.

- We are increasing the capacity of indoor worship from 25% to 50% by utilizing full pews in every other row. With the lower community spread and the use of face coverings, we feel the added risk is minimal. People may choose where to sit in the open pews with a physical distance from others that is comfortable for them.
- We will sing together again on a limited basis. Our Worship and Music Team will bring back the joy of singing together gradually in order to keep the risk lower.

In addition to the changes listed above, there are several small changes to our COVID-19 Policy to relax precautions and procedures. Please see the full policy on our website for more information.

We owe the council gratitude for the deliberate ways they have navigated the pandemic thus far, and for creating the safest and most welcome worship and gathering opportunities for our situation. We thank the congregation for understanding that there is no perfect answer and for respecting the council decisions in unity, as one body of Christ.

Blessings,

Linda Golinghorst, President  
Pastor Carrie Lewis-LaPlante, Senior Pastor



## Final Friday Fun




















In celebration of the end of the school year and the beginning of summer we will be hosting Final Friday Fun on the front lawn with games, snacks and crafts.

Bring your family on June 4th from 1pm - 3pm.

If you would like to help out that day or donate to the fun, please contact Carrie Keppy (979-6954) or the church office.

*Thank you for your prayers and support.*



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<b>1</b> 1pm Bible Study Food Pantry 5:30-7pm 	<b>2</b> 7pm High School Youth	<b>3</b> 1pm NS Food Pantry Board Meeting 6:30 pm Team Night In person or Zoom	<b>4</b> 1:00-3pm Final Friday (Outside) 	<b>5</b> 9:30 am WELCA Online Bible Study 5pm Worship in Sanctuary & Online 
<b>6</b> 9am Worship Outdoor Chapel	<b>7</b> 6pm Lions Club (FH) 7pm Faith Connects Online	<b>8</b> 1pm Bible Study Food Pantry 5:30-7pm 	<b>9</b> 10:30 am Chime Choir 7pm High School Youth	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Food Pantry 9:30—11am  NS Chamber Golf Outing	<b>12</b> 5pm Worship in Sanctuary & Online 
<b>13</b> 9am Worship in Sanctuary  11:15 am Long Grove Strawberry Festival Parade 5:30 pm 4H Mtg. (FH) 7pm COVID Committee (Zoom)	<b>14</b> 6pm Lions Exec Mtg. 7pm Faith Connects Online 	<b>15</b> 1pm Bible Study Food Pantry 5:30-7pm  7pm Executive Committee Mtg. 7:30pm BBS - Broberg Backyard	<b>16</b> 6-9pm Summer Concert Series @ Sheridan Meadows 7pm High School Youth	<b>17</b> 7pm Church Council Meeting Zoom 	<b>18</b> Food Pantry 9:30—11am 	<b>19</b> 5pm Worship in Sanctuary & Online 
<b>20</b> <i>Father's Day</i> 9am Worship Outdoor Chapel  6-8 pm VBS (Outside)	<b>21</b>  6-8pm VBS (Outside)	<b>22</b> 1pm Bible Study Food Pantry 5:30-7pm  6-8pm VBS (Outside)	<b>23</b> 10:30 am Chime Choir 6-8pm VBS (Outside)	<b>24</b> 6-8pm VBS (Outside)	<b>25</b> Food Pantry 9:30—11am 	<b>26</b> 5pm Worship in Sanctuary & Online 
<b>27</b> 9am Worship in Sanctuary	<b>28</b> 7pm Faith Connects Online	<b>29</b> 9am Ambassador Folding  1pm Bible Study Food Pantry 5:30-7pm 	<b>30</b> 7pm High School Youth			